

I. Project Title and Project Purpose Statement

Project Title: Pulmones Saludables, Ahora! (Healthy Lungs Now!) Reduce Exposure to Air-born Environmental Contaminants in the Petrochemical Industry-Impacted Neighborhoods of Tallaboa-Encarnación.

Project Summary: The goal of the project is to reduce exposure to air-born environmental contaminants in the petrochemical industry-impacted neighborhoods of Tallaboa-Encarnación, Penuelas, Puerto Rico.

Project Goals:

There are a wide variety of potential sources of air pollution impacting the 1,400-person Tallaboa-Encarnación community of Peñuelas, Puerto Rico. The community borders a heavy industrial zone, where suspected sources of air pollutants include a smoldering mountain of tires burning at a pneumatic recycling facility, high concentrations of asbestos carried on the wind following improper demolition of a nearby industrial site, toxic substances emitted at the Costa Sur electric utility, toxic releases from natural gas and propane facilities, and heavy traffic from a major highway.

Healthy Lungs Now! aims to identify the worst air pollutants contributing to the high rate of asthma in community and take practical measures to reduce their exposure in the short-, medium- and long term. The project will use elements of EPA's Collaborative Problem Solving Model as the basis for creating (and beginning to implement) the plan that will successfully reduce exposure in the community.

Location of Project: Tallaboa-Encarnación, Penuelas, Puerto Rico 00624

Related Environmental Statute: Clean Air Act (Section 103(b)(3): Conduct research, investigations, experiments, demonstration projects, surveys and studies (including monitoring) related to the causes, effects (including health and welfare effects), extent , prevention, and control of air pollution.

How the Project Relates to the Statute: Pulmones Saludables, Ahora! responds to the Clean Air Act by working directly for the prevention and control of air pollution and its impact on highly sensitive populations, among them children, the elderly, pregnant mothers, and the community in general.

Project Partners in Attached MOAs:

DISUR obtained commitment from a wide cross section of stakeholders to work on developing solutions that can reduce exposure to air contaminants in the community. They are as follows:

Neighborhood Organizations

- Comité Pro Salud, Ambiente y Desarrollo
- Grupo Voces
- Community School SU Jorge Lucas Pérez Valdevieso

State Government Organizations

- Puerto Rico Environmental Quality Board

- House of Representatives District 23 leader, Hon. Nelson Torres Yordán

Local Government

- The Municipality of Peñuelas, Puerto Rico

Academic/Public Health Institutions

- Ponce School of Medicine (Public Health Program)

Local Industrial Leaders

- Puerto Rico Gas

II. Environmental and/or Public Health information about the Affected Community

In November of 2013, heavy demolition teams toppled six 75-foot steel chimneys lined with asbestos, blowing particles into the homes, small businesses, a K-9 public school, and a Head Start in the Tallaboa-Encarnación community of Peñuelas, Puerto Rico. Rushing to the site to investigate, EPA detected dangerous levels of asbestos in air and on surfaces in the schools, local businesses and residences. The environmental disaster caused school closures and anxiety in this Hispanic neighborhood. As of this writing, the cleanup has yet to begin.

This story is just the latest in a 50-year history of toxic releases into the community, a consequence of nearby industry. There are many potential sources of air pollutants in the community and sadly with little effort aimed at prevent future exposures, there is an ongoing and real danger to the health of sensitive populations, including children, the elderly, and pregnant mothers.

Fifty years ago, industrialization of the zone created some 25,000 jobs at more than a dozen petrochemical facilities. When the major petroleum importer went bankrupt in 1980, the surrounding petrochemical industries that relied on petroleum imports and byproducts shut their doors and left the area. Today, rusting chimneys and pipe racks cut vertically across the landscape. DISUR, in collaboration with State agencies, is leading the effort to study the contaminants on these Brownfields and plan for their remediation.

Following its emergence from bankruptcy, the principal Petroleum importer changed its business model and now stores gasoline for distribution on the island. Meanwhile, new players came to the area, occupying some of the vacant industrial sites and basing their operations on the importation, processing and distribution of natural gas and propane. And so the emission of pollutants continue.

In March 2011, students and faculty at the community's middle school were hospitalized after a nearby gas processing facility released toxins into the air. Just a mile away, on a daily basis the 50-year-old, 1,090 MW electric plant Costa Sur pumps toxins into the air via its inefficient combustion of #6 Bunker Oil and other fossil fuels. The plant's emissions of TRI Chemicals excluding Dioxin and Dioxin-like Compounds totaled 634,000 pounds in 2012, making the site one of the biggest air polluters in Puerto Rico.

Neighbors in Tallaboa-Encarnación also mention the strange smells coming from the smoldering mountains of tires that have burned for six years at a former pneumatic recycling

facility.

In 2012, the Public Health Program of the Ponce School of Medicine completed the first ever epidemiological study of the respiratory consequences of living next to heavy industry in Tallboa-Encarnación. The study confirmed a significantly higher proportion of asthma cases in the community and suggested that the respiratory problems could be a consequence of nearby industrial pollutants. The findings recommended further study.

In addition to suffering the health consequences of living near heavy industry, the neighbors of Tallboa-Encarnación have low educational achievement, high poverty, high unemployment, and outmigration.

According to the 2010 US Census, 57 percent of the 1,378 people in Tallboa-Encarnación live below the federal poverty level. Sixty-two percent of the children living in this community live in poverty.

Of people age 25 and over, 18 percent have no more than a ninth-grade education, contributing to the problem of poverty and high unemployment. The per capita income in the neighborhood is \$6,742, while chronic unemployment in the municipality of Peñuelas is at 19.2%, according November 2013 data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The follow table compares neighborhood demographic statistics to the city, the island and the Mainland.

Table of Community Data:

	Tallboa Encarnación	Peñuelas	Puerto Rico	National (USA)
Population Size ¹	1,378	212,190	3,725,789	308,745,538
Population Tendancy (- or +) ²	(34)	(24,076)	(82,821)	27,323,632
% Minority ¹	99%	99%	99%	27%
Unemployment Rate	—	19.3% ³	14.7% ³	7.0% ³
Poverty Rate:	57% ⁴	55% ⁵	45% ⁵	15.1% ⁵
Poverty Rate for children <18 YO	62% ⁴	67% ⁵	56.3% ⁵	21.6% ⁵
Per Capita Income:	\$6,742 ¹	\$6,625 ¹	\$10,056 ¹	\$49,445 ¹
% of people 25+ with Less than 9th grade	18% ⁴	21% ⁵	30% ⁵	6% ⁵

¹ Data is from the 2010 U.S. Census data and is available at <http://www.census.gov/>

² Data compared between 2000 and 2010 U.S. Census

³ Data is from the Bureau of labor Statistics available at www.bls.gov, November 2013

⁴ Data is from the 2005 - 2009 American Community Survey and is available at <http://fastfacts.census.gov> American Community Survey factfinder.census.gov (2010 Census data is not available for Puerto Rico Neighborhoods)

⁵ Data is from 2010 American Community Survey http://www.census.gov/newsroom/releases/archives/income_wealth/cb11-157.html

III. Organization's Historical Connection to the Affected Community

Desarrollo Integral del Sur, Inc. (DISUR) is a non-profit corporation built around the idea that collaboration is the way to bring about positive socio-economic change. The organization's board of directors is made up of representatives from the public, private and academic sectors, along with residents of the 15 economically distressed municipalities across south Puerto Rico. More than 50 percent of the region's 600,000 inhabitants live below the poverty level. Included in this region is the neighborhood of Tallaboa-Encarnación, Penuelas.

DISUR began collaborating with leaders from the Tallaboa-Encarnación community in early 2010 to support an EPA-funded Area-wide Brownfields Planning Pilot Program (AWP).

The AWP is part of the HUD/DOT/EPA Partnership for Sustainable Communities.

Through its work during the past four years, DISUR has also learned about the ongoing exposure to air-born contaminants and the community's health concerns. To address the issues, in January 2013 DISUR submitted an unsuccessful Environmental Justice Small Grant Proposal to EPA.

The Area-wide planning project allowed DISUR to complete a planning effort to address the Brownfields issues also facing the Tallaboa-Encarnación community. DISUR launched its Area-wide Planning project in May 2011 with series of four community-based charrettes, where through participatory small groups and dialog, neighbors identified the contaminated properties in their community, set priorities for the potential reuse and development of the industrial sites, and prioritized a wish list. With this important initial direction from the community, the project team continued each step of the Area-wide planning process, presenting findings to the community and soliciting feedback to adjust and modify the plan.

In the development of the plan, DISUR also enlisted sponsorship and support from area minority-based business, among them IFCO Recycling, Master Paints, and EcoEléctrica, and established ongoing alliances with the Puerto Rico Energy Center, an environmental consultant/lawyer, and Ponce Neighborhood Housing Services, Inc.

In February 2013, DISUR published the plan and widely distributed it electronically and to local, state and national stakeholders. The community-based planning document takes into account the potential and viable reuses for the properties, with community needs and desires at the fore. Among the anticipated reuses are: A solar energy farm, an E-waste recycling facility, green coastal and recreational, and improved housing. The planning document is a road map for the eventual cleanup and reuse of properties in the petrochemical zone of Guayanilla and Peñuelas properties.

In all, 21 volunteers from local universities were recruited for the project. DISUR also held more than a dozen meetings and direct contact with more than 200 citizens, including "findings" meeting in a public hearing format to collect public reaction to the Reuse and Implementation Plan. More than 30 local, state and federal government agencies were also contacted to help the project team to evaluate the decayed infrastructure in the zone.

DISUR's work helped community organizers to articulate ongoing concerns and

problems, as well as gain consensus about future reuses for Brownfields that were compatible with neighboring communities. Additionally, DISUR obtained capacity building training aimed at developing a utility-scale solar reuse for one of the Brownfields in the neighborhood. Stakeholders from the reuse planning project (including an active community leader) joined experts from the American Architecture Foundations' Sustainable Cities Design Academy to develop an implementation plan for a possible future utility scale solar energy plant.

Attracting private sponsorship dollars, DISUR developed a traveling educational exhibition, video and catalog that describe the trajectory of the Petrochemical zone from its rural beginnings to its industrial boom, to its present state of contamination towards a cleaner, brighter future for the residents of the area. These tools continue to build community capacity for understanding the complex challenge of transforming the area.

Other results of the two-year planning effort include vast media attention in local and state online, print, radio and TV media and in the delivery of more than four educational seminars to various groups, among them students from local universities, Puerto Rico Planners Association, Sierra Club Puerto Rico Chapter, and local mayors

Communication to a broad constituency takes place via email, DISUR's quarterly newsletter, and DISUR's Facebook social media sites. Relations with Tallaboa-Encarnación neighborhood leaders are more high-touch and involve direct telephone and face-to-face meetings on a regular basis.

IV. Project Description

i. Description of Project Activities

DISUR's Healthy Lungs, Now! project will work to reduce exposure to air-born environmental contaminants through an equitable, collaborative problem solving methodology that will result in a positive immediate and lasting impact on public health and quality of life for the residents of the Tallaboa-Encarnación Community of Penuelas, Puerto Rico.

The project will achieve a reduction in exposure to air contaminants through a collaborative, output focused approach that is expected to yield the following:

- Creation of a list of Top Air Pollutants in the target community.
- Identification of existing public policy and regulations, as well as opportunities for new policy that can assist in reducing and/or preventing exposure to air contaminants.
- Identification of existing sources of air quality data for the target community.
- Identification of significant air quality data gaps about air contaminants of greatest impact to target community.
- Analysis and communication of air quality data to community.
- Creation an actionable plan with immediate, short-, medium- and long-term strategies for reducing exposure to air-born contaminants for sensitive populations and the target community. Immediate steps under the plan are expected to include:

- Capacity building that can assist neighbors in reducing exposure to air-born contaminants in their homes, businesses and community organizations.
 - Identification of and communication around best practices to reduce air emissions in neighboring industries.
 - Identification of public policy opportunities that might insure that future remediation and demolition activities do not contribute to air contamination.
- Evaluation of program outputs.
- Identification of sustainable methods for ongoing dialogue and monitoring.

Project consultants and their roles throughout the project include:

David Southgate – Project Manager

The project manager will be responsible for all federal reporting requirements, planning the project schedule creating a detailed work breakdown structure, timelines, and recruiting remaining contractual resources, as well as acting as project spokesperson in the media and presenting findings at public findings meetings.

Rafael Picó Seda – Dialogue and Planning Facilitator

The Dialogue and Planning Facilitator will be responsible for facilitating and guiding productive discussions at the Stakeholder Round Tables, setting the ground rules and keeping discussions on topic. Based on the information generated in these discussions, this person will draft the Action Plan for reducing exposure to air pollution in the immediate-, short-, medium- and long-term.

Gladyra Archilla – Public Engagement Coordinator

The Public Engagement Coordinator will update existing data on community and stakeholder contacts and develop the communications plan to be followed throughout the duration of the project. This person be responsible for stakeholder, community and media relations throughout the life of the project and for coordinating dialogue spaces and public meetings. This person will also report on the outcomes of each dialogue as a form of communicating the results of the dialogues back to the participants and as a basis for the Action Plan.

Maria Rivera Grau and Juan Feliciano – Charrette Leaders

The Charrette Leaders will guide specialized interactive charrettes related to the needs and problems facing the community school and Head Start and will guide participants in identifying solutions for reducing air pollution in these educational institutions.

Altol - Environmental Engineering Company

Based on gaps found in existing air quality data, Altol will design, sample and analyze air quality data in the impacted neighborhood.

Project Timing

Quarter 1: Project Initiation & Developing Comprehensive Understanding

At the initiation of the project, the Project Manager will develop a project plan and detailed work breakdown structure and timelines, and recruit remaining contractual resources if any. The Project Manager and the Dialogue Facilitator will attend the EPA EJ training and the Public Engagement Coordinator will prepare the communication plan, ensuring at the same time that all contacts vital to the success of project communications are up to date. Initial public information about project will be announced in press, DISUR's Website and social media.

Quarter 2: Issue Identification, Community Visions and Goal Setting

Working in collaboration with identified partners, DISUR will lead an Issue Identification, Community Visioning and Strategic Goal Setting session around reduction of exposure to air-born contaminants. DISUR anticipates that this will take place through an initial and ongoing Stakeholder Round Table discussions.

The result of these discussions is expected to identify key sources of air contamination impacting the community, existing sources of data, existing public policy and regulations intended to address these issues, a list of other stakeholders who may also have helpful data, delegation of responsibilities, and a timeline for next steps. Following this meeting, project staff and partners will have a clear understanding of the data and information that must be collected and analyzed prior to the next Round Table Discussion, where this information will be presented for discussion.

Quarter 3: Capacity Building and Leveraging of Resources

Based on work previously completed during Quarter 2, the Stakeholder Round Table will convene again in order to review the findings, identify gaps, identify and leverage additional stakeholder resources, and identify important community dialogues aimed at building capacity and resolving disputes that may arise from the plan. The meeting will also lay out initial elements of an Action Plan, as well as a proposed timeline and roles and responsibilities for immediate, short-, medium- and long-term implementation. The design of an air quality sample will also occur during this quarter.

Quarter 4: Capacity Building, Consensus Building and Dispute Resolution

It is anticipated that at least one of the possible solutions proposed at the Stakeholder Round Table will be controversial and require Consensus Building exercises. Among these are the possible relocation of the public school and Head Start, both of which were under the constant threat of toxic air emissions, including recent asbestos contamination as a consequence of poorly controlled demolition at a nearby Brownfield site. Therefore, DISUR plans on holding charrettes specifically targeting the parents and faculty at the community school and Head Start. The goal will be to determine if the constituent group believes the schools should be relocated, if so identify next steps for implementation. Samples and analysis of air quality to fill in gaps will be undertaken during this quarter.

Quarters 5-8: Implementation & Evaluation

DISUR will hold a public hearing meetings to share project findings about air-born contaminants impacting the Tallaboa-Encarnación community and will roll out the Action Plan for public comment via the meeting, Social Media and disur.org, DISUR's Website. Feedback will be collected and the plan modified accordingly. The Stakeholder Round Table will be briefed on the reactions from community members and Action Plan will be revised accordingly.

During the last four quarters of the project, DISUR and Stakeholders will begin collaborating to implement immediate elements of the Action Plan. It is expected that these elements will include:

- Capacity building regarding cleaning and grounds keeping methods that can reduce exposure to air-born contaminants.
- Communication of industry best practices to reduce air emissions.
- Identify opportunities for public policy that can help to responsibly control air emissions as a consequence of Brownfield demolition and construction activities.
- Identification of steps needed to reduce future exposure to air-contaminants in the community's public schools and next steps.

The project evaluation will also take place in the final quarter of the project, documenting and communicating key project metrics and outcomes, based on the project's Performance Measures and Milestones.

ii. **Description of Partner Organizations**

To assist in executing the project, DISUR has obtained project commitment from a diverse group of partners. Among them:

The Puerto Rico Environmental Quality Board. – Air Quality Data

The EQB is the Puerto Rico Agency responsible for developing activities that prevent and control all air contamination issues that can effect public health and well being. As part of its program, the EQB maintains an air sampling network across the island, specifically monitoring for contaminants and standards as established by EPA. The EQB's director has committed to assigning a liaison to the project who will be responsible for coordinating EQB's participation in Stakeholder meetings and facilitating productive dialogue which may result in measures that will reduce exposure to air-born contaminants in the target community. The EQB has been an active participant in DISUR's Brownfields projects since 2010 and has previously provided access to environmental data that is available through this office.

The Municipality of Peñuelas, Puerto Rico. – Coordination with state and federal government agencies for access to additional air quality information and regulations

Since 2010, the Municipality of Peñuelas has been an active partner in DISUR's Brownfields program of direct impact to the Tallaboa-Encarnación community. The mayor continues to be an active participant in conversations with state and federal government regarding the asbestos exposures recently suffered in these communities. He is committed to assigning a resource to the project in order to facilitate productive dialogue by way of accessing additional information about air quality and regulations from state and federal agencies.

Ponce School of Medicine and Health Science –Capacity Building for Reduction of Contaminant Exposure.

The Ponce School of Medicine and Health Science is the ninth highest ranked medical school in the United States. The educational programs have been strengthened by the opportunities that emerge from PSM&HS's service mission as a provider of medical and mental health services in south Puerto Rico. Under a recent collaborative agreement with the Puerto Rico Department of Health and the University of Puerto Rico's Public Health Program, as well as other entities, the PSM&HS recently expanded its access to resources and data concerning public health. The organization has committed to providing capacity building for the project area's residents and small businesses to help them understand the types of contaminants that may be contributing to the high incidence of asthma in their neighborhoods and provide practical ideas for reducing their exposure. In addition, to facilitate PSM&HS participation in the project, the President will assign a staff member who will participate in problem solving dialogues with other stakeholders.

Puerto Rico Legislative District 23 Representative Nelson Torres Yordán. – Legislative Research

Representative Torres' Legislative District 23 represents the interests of constituents in Yauco, Guayanilla and Penuelas, Puerto Rico, including those of the Tallaboa-Encarnación community. He is president of the Commission on Consumer Affairs and Anti-Monopolistic Practices, the President of the Ethics Commission, and the President of Special Reports to the Puerto Rico Controller's Office. In addition, Rep. Torres is a delegate and member of the Puerto Rico Lawyers' Association. Representative Torres will be an active participant in problem solving dialogues and visioning sessions and to facilitate this participation he will assign someone from his office to the project. This person will both listen to the ongoing dialogue and be able to provide a legislative perspective regarding existing mechanism to reduce air pollution.

Comité Pro Salud, Ambiente y Desarrollo of Tallaboa-Encarnación – Share community concerns and increase community participation

The Committee for the Health, Environment and Development of Tallaboa-Encarnación is a community-based organization of volunteers whose mission is to provide oversight of the government agencies responsible for the environment and health of the community in the face of ongoing industrial contamination. The Committee does not pursue political agendas or identify

with any political party. Members come from a variety of political persuasions with the common interest of working for the well-being of their community. The Committee has agreed to be an active participant in the project's problem solving dialogues and visioning sessions and has committed to spreading the word about the project to others in the neighborhood.

Grupo Voces – Share community concerns and increase community participation

Voices Group is a community-based organization of volunteers whose mission is to help identify necessary resources that respond to the expressed needs of the Tallaboa-Encarnación community. The Group has agreed to be an active participant in the project's problem solving dialogues and visioning sessions and has committed to spreading the word about the project to others in the neighborhood.

Community School SU Jorge Lucas Pérez Valdivieso – Share community concerns and increase community participation

Segunda Unidad Jorge Lucas Péres Valdivieso is the community school of the Tallaboa-Encarnación neighborhood, serving nearly 300 students. The school's principle, as well as the President of the School Board, have agreed to participate in the project's problem solving dialogue and visioning sessions and have committed to spreading the word about the project to parents whose children attend the school. Their participation is of vital importance to the discussion around the realities of the school just blocks from industrial sites and the ongoing concern about the dangers of exposures to air contaminants for children and teachers at the school.

Puerto Rico Gas – Provide Best Practices Information

Located in the Tallaboa-Encarnación community, Puerto Rico Gas serves the commercial and residential market for Liquid Propane Gas via 35 million gallon storage tanks and its distribution network. Founded in 1967, the company also regularly monitors air quality of its operations. The company has agreed to be an active participant in the project's problem solving dialogues and visioning sessions. The company will be able to share its expertise in the control of air-born contaminants and will share its knowledge about best industry practices.

DISUR is a consortium whose leaders come from the private, public, and academic sectors. As with previous DISUR projects, it is expect that DISUR will leverage additional resources from its consortium membership as further needs are identified.

V. Organizational Capacity and Programmatic Capability

DISUR has increasingly obtained significant recognition, commitment and support from multiple stakeholders and communities within and outside of the south Puerto Rico region. Just recently, for example, DISUR won the Environmental Business Journal's 2013 Business Achievement Award for Area-wide Planning Project, a project developed under a Collaborative Agreement with EPA's Office of Brownfields and Land Revitalization. DISUR successfully completed work under its \$175,000 Area-wide Planning Grant, which was funded under the HUD/DOT/EPA Partnership for Sustainable Communities (EPA-OSWER-OBLR-10-05). Project close out occurred in March 2013 with all reporting requirements met and funds spent.

Presently DISUR is working two Brownfields Assessment Grants with \$1 million in funds approved under EPA-OSWER-OBLR-11-05. DISUR has successfully performed the first phase of work on both Assessment projects, which are presently on-time and on-budget. DISUR has complied with grant requirements as outlined in the work plan, schedule, terms and conditions, timely reporting of quarterly reports, Form 5700-52A and other reporting requirements.

DISUR affirms that it has not experienced any adverse audits in the administration of any Federal grants. In addition, the organization has maintained excellent relationships with leaders in the Brownfields impacted community and with EPA's Project Coordinators Aimee Storm and now Nancy Rodriguez.

Part of the success of these projects has to do with DISUR's lean management structure, its ability to attract and retain top talent, and its strong institutional and financial management policies, procedures and controls. In February 2011, EPA validated DISUR's institutional controls via a capacity evaluation that reviewed Corporate Policies and Procedures related to finance management; procurement of personnel, contractors, supplies and equipment; financial control policies and procedures that ensure proper bookkeeping, transparency, oversight, and separation of responsibilities; as well as a fixed asset policy and a code of ethics.

In terms of the selection of project consultants, to increase transparency in the selection process, in the past DISUR has previously used a panel composed of experts in the field and/or those nominated by the community, to review, rank and recommend top qualified consultants based responses to RFPs. All potential conflicts of interest are declared up front and panelists with conflicts do not participate in the review.

In the case of independent consultants, DISUR advertises the opportunities in the Puerto Rico Job Bank, the online employment Website created by the Puerto Rico Department of Labor, and selects qualified candidates during a standardized and documented interview process. Candidates are ranked on a variety of standardized criteria in order to select the best professional.

In the event that a consulting firm, independent consultant, or DISUR employee leaves mid-project, DISUR evokes the same procurement procedures as documented in the Company Policies, and outlined here.

The management system in place that will direct activities of this grant includes the following team:

Fernando Cruz Dominicci – President of the Board of Directors

As the president of the corporation DISUR, Mr. Cruz is also one of the corporation's founders. As the voluntary head official of the corporation on all matters otherwise not delegated, Mr. Cruz also precedes the Executive Committee of the Corporation. He is actually the Director of Finance at Rovira Biscuit Corporation, where he has worked for the past 20 years. He is an active leader in civic leader, a former president of the Chamber of Commerce of South Puerto Rico and the board member of the Oncological Hospital of Ponce Andres Grillasca, Hospicio Guadupe and Siervas de Maria in Ponce Puerto Rico.

Rafael Picó Seda–Executive President

An agronomer by training, Mr. Picó has vast experience in public administration and oversees the day-to-day operations of DISUR, as well as focuses on sustainable practices. He is a demonstrated leader, with experience in government public policy, administration, customer service, security, community relations, and logistics.

David Southgate – Project Manager

Mr. Southgate has managed EPA projects for DISUR since 2010, beginning with DISUR's Area-wide Planning Pilot Program and presently its Assessment Grants, awarded in 2012. He is responsible for the day-to-day project direction, and ensures that project budget is well spent and contractual obligations to EPA under DISUR's collaborative agreements are met. He keeps project staff focused on deliverables and outputs. He has a unique combination of project management and communications management in both North America and Latin America, which helps drive this success. Mr. Southgate is a COMPTIA Project+ certified project manager and holds a bachelor's degree in journalism from the University of Minnesota's school of Journalism and Mass Communications. He is a former member of the board of directors of the Chamber of Commerce of South Puerto Rico and present member of the Ponce Workforce Investment Act Board.

Gladyra Archilla – Public Engagement Coordinator

Gladya I. Archilla as a veteran communications professional with 20 years' experience as a published print and broadcast journalist, as well as a University Professor in Communications, Marketing and Human Resources. She manages community relations for DISUR's existing Assessment Grants. She holds a BA in Political Science from the University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras and an MA in Public Relations from the University Sagrado Corazon. She is a licensed public relations practitioner in Puerto Rico.

Maria Mercedes Rivera Grau – Planner, Architect, LEED Associate.

Ms. Rivera has worked as a planner on projects for DISUR since 2011, beginning with DISUR's Area-wide Planning Pilot Program and presently its Assessment Grants. Previously she offered design services and charrettes to communities through Community Design Solutions, where she offered her capacity as an architect and planner to lead workshops for Latino communities in the revitalization and improvement of their homes. She holds a BA (BSAS) and master's degree in architecture (M. Arch) together with a certificate in green design at the School of Architecture and Urban Planning (Sarup) at the University of Wisconsin Milwaukee. Ms. Rivera is a member of the American Institute of Architects (Assoc. AIA) and the College of Architects and Landscape Architects of Puerto Rico (AIT CAAPPR).

Juan Carlos Feliciano Rodriguez – Planner, Architect, LEED Associate.

Mr. Feliciano has worked as a planner on projects for DISUR since 2011, beginning with DISUR's Area-wide Planning Pilot Program and presently its Assessment Grants. He has offered his capacity as an architect and planner in numerous and diverse projects dedicated to the improvement and revitalization of Latin and African-American communities, including a position of design and environmental remediation of a Brownfield in a low-income African-American community in Milwaukee. He possesses a bachelor's degree (B.S.A.S.) and a Master's Degree in architecture (M.Arch), together with a specialized certification in ecological design, obtained at the School of Architecture and Urban Planning at the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee.

Altol Environmental Services, Inc. – Environmental Air Sampling

Altol is a multidisciplinary environmental consulting firm, which provides comprehensive environmental engineering services in a timely and cost-effective manner. Altol provides quality environmental services to recognized companies of the petroleum industry, state agencies and independent clients. The company is often called upon by private industry in the Petrochemical area of Penuelas, Puerto Rico to monitor air quality for NPDES, SPCC, and air quality. DISUR has been working with Altol since 2013 after selecting the company to perform Phase I and Phase II ESAs for hazardous Brownfields.

VI. Qualifications of the Project Manager (PM)

DISUR's Project Manager David Southgate has extensive experience in the communications and project management field for non-profit developers, community-based arts organizations, and technology business startups. He possesses a B.A. in Journalism from the University of Minnesota and ongoing studies in themes related to business administration.

His formative professional years were spent as a community-based journalist and as a communications professional with community-minded arts organizations in Minneapolis-St. Paul, such as the Walker Art Center, Intermedia Arts, the Independent Television Service and ArtSpace Projects. At the same time, he served on the board of directors of community-based arts and neighborhood development organizations, such as the Margolis Brown Company (a

performing arts company and school), Sherlock Homes Housing Cooperative, and the West Side Neighborhood Alliance. With the boom of the Internet in the late 1990s, he made the transition into project management for technology-startups, where he obtained a COMPTIA Project + certification in Project Management.

In 2001, he relocated to Ponce, Puerto Rico where he learned Spanish and his passion for community led him to manage an Area-wide Brownfields Planning Pilot for Desarrollo Integral del Sur (DISUR), planning the revitalization of a 3,500-acre former petrochemical zone along the Caribbean Coast of Puerto Rico. There, he was responsible for overall project success, planning and scheduling, scope management, recruitment, supervision, community and collaborator engagement, media relations, federal compliance management enforcement, and grant writing, as well as communication between EPA, the grant recipient, C-Level Stakeholders and local and state government.

Mr. Southgate's ties to the community and DISUR include his participation in civic organizations in Puerto Rico. He is a member of the board of directors of the Ponce-based Workforce Investment Board (WIA), and a former Director of the Chamber of Commerce of South Puerto Rico. His work with leaders of the Tallaboa-Encarnación community has led to new friendships and a mutual respect for efforts to achieve environmental justice for Brownfields-impacted communities. In November, the community school invited Mr. Southgate to participate the Department of Education's District Wide science contest as a judge of student entries.

VII. Past Performance in Reporting on Outputs and Outcomes

DISUR's past and current Federal projects include:

Cooperative Agreement Number: TR-83492201

Title of Project: Brownfields Area-Wide Planning Pilot Program for the Petrochemical Impacted Communities of Penuelas and Guayanilla, Puerto Rico.

Amount of Funding: \$175,000

Funding Agency: US Environmental Protection Agency

Point of Contact: Aimee Storm, EPA Office of Brownfields and Land Revitalization, storm.aimee@epa.gov

Progress Methods: Quarterly reports, annual MBE/WBE 5700-52A, Final SF-425, Periodic Emails and conversations. Progress on the implementation of the resulting plan continues as DISUR implements the plan or receives news of interest.

Grant Proposal: EJ Collaborative Problem-Solving Cooperative Agreement Program FY2014
Catalog: 66.306
Applicant: Desarrollo Integral del Sur, Inc. (DISUR)

Cooperative Agreement: BF 96293613-0

Title of Project: Petroleum Assessments for Brownfields in Impacted Communities of Peñuelas, Guayanilla and Ponce

Amount of Funding: \$382,150

Funding Agency: US Environmental Protection Agency

Point of Contact: Nancy Rodriguez, Response and Remediation Branch,
rodriguez.nancy@epa.gov

Progress Methods: Quarterly reports, semi-annual MBE/WBE 5700-52A, annual SF-425, and final SF-425. Periodic Emails and conversations. Project progress is also communicated on the disur.org website to increase project transparency between DISUR, community and other stakeholders.

Cooperative Agreement: BF 96293513-0

Title of Project: Hazardous Substances Assessments for Brownfields in Impacted Communities of Peñuelas, Guayanilla and Ponce

Amount of Funding: \$617,850

Funding Agency: US Environmental Protection Agency

Point of Contact: Nancy Rodriguez, Response and Remediation Branch,
rodriguez.nancy@epa.gov

Progress Methods: Quarterly reports, semi-annual MBE/WBE 5700-52A, annual SF-425, and final SF-425. Periodic Emails and conversations. Project progress is also communicated on the disur.org website to increase project transparency between DISUR, community and other stakeholders.

VIII. Expenditure of Awarded Grant Funds

As previously mentioned in section V. of this proposal, in February 2011 EPA approved DISUR's policies and procedures in a capacity evaluation that ensures that grant funds will be spent in a timely and efficient manner. Once a Collaborative Agreement is executed, DISUR's project manager begins the procurement process to ensure that the appropriate resources are obtained and contracted and that all project resources understand the project timeline and their specific responsibilities and deliverables, as approved under the Work Plan. Work invoices are submitted on a monthly basis and Payment Requests to EPA are processed in a manner that encourages the efficient and timely draw down of project funds.

IX. Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) Information

DISUR believes that the project will involve both the use of existing environmental data and the collection of new data and will therefore likely need to create a QAPP should the project be selected for funding. DISUR understands that if a QAPP is required, then an approved QAPP must be in place *prior* to the initiation of project activities.